

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 31, wherein the ~~processed sound~~ received user's voice directed back to the user is directed back through vibration is transmitted directly into the skull bone by physical attachment of the bone conduction hearing apparatus to the skull bone.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 31, further comprising:
adjusting frequency characteristics of the bone conducting hearing ~~aid~~ apparatus.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 31, further comprising:
further delaying feedback directing back to the user the received user's voice ~~of the voice of the user~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 31, further comprising:
suppressing sound from ~~other~~ directions other than a forward direction in front of the user.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:
adjusting the further delay.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 31, further comprising:

shifting a frequency of the received voice of the user directed fed back to the user.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 12~~ claim 31, further comprising:

transmitting to each cochlea ~~inner-ear~~ of the user sound information having different frequency characteristics.

21-30. (Cancelled)

31. (New) A method of treating stuttering, comprising:

fitting a bone conducting hearing apparatus to a user having a stuttering problem but no substantial hearing impairment;

receiving, with a microphone of the bone conducting hearing apparatus, sound including the user's voice; and

directing the received user's voice back to the user through the bone conducting hearing apparatus in order to treat the stuttering problem.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein directing the received user's voice back to the user in order to treat the stuttering problem includes directing the received user's voice to a first cochlea and a second cochlea of the user.

33. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising amplifying the received user's voice more than the surrounding sound and directing the amplified received user's voice back to the user.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the received user's voice directed back to the user is received by the first cochlea before it is received by the second cochlea.

35. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the user has a first cochlea and a second cochlea that are both stimulated by the sound including the voice of the user through natural hearing.

36. (New) A method of treating stuttering, comprising:

fitting a bone conducting hearing apparatus to a user having a stuttering problem but no substantial hearing impairment;

receiving, with a microphone of the bone conducting hearing apparatus, sound including a voice of the user; and

directing the received user's voice back to the user through the bone conducting hearing apparatus to treat the stuttering problem so that a first cochlea and a second cochlea of the user are stimulated by the bone conducting hearing apparatus, wherein there is a delay in stimulating the first cochlea relative to the second cochlea.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein both the first cochlea and the second cochlea are also stimulated by the sound including the voice of the user through natural hearing.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein any delay in stimulating the first cochlea or the second cochlea relative to the stimulation of the first cochlea or the second cochlea, respectively, through natural hearing, is due solely to the bone conducting device.

39. (New) The method of claim 36, further comprising amplifying the received user's voice more than the surrounding sound and directing the amplified received user's voice back to the user to treat the stuttering problem.

40. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein the received user's voice directed back to the user is directed back through vibration transmitted directly into the skull bone by physical attachment of the bone conduction hearing apparatus to the skull bone.

41. (New) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:

adjusting frequency characteristics of the bone conducting hearing apparatus.

42. (New) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:

further delaying directing back to the user the received user's voice.

43. (New) The method according to claim 36, further comprising:

shifting a frequency of the received voice of the user directed back to the user.